



"LO A  
VOICE FROM  
HEAVEN"



# The Church of God Evangel



CLEVELAND, TENN.

**GOD & LOVE**

THE  
Pillar

THE  
TRUTH

## FAITH'S TRUST

*Not a brooklet floweth onward to the sea,  
Not a sunbeam gloweth on its bosom free.  
Not a seed unfoldeth to the glorious air,  
But our Father holdeth it within His care.*

*Not a floweret fadeth, not a star grows dim,  
Not a cloud o'ershadoweth, but 'tis marked by  
Him.*

*Dream not that thy gladness God doth fail to  
see;  
Think not in thy sadness He forgetteth thee.*

*Power eternal resteth in His changeless hand;  
Love immortal hasteth swift at His command,  
Faith can firmly trust Him in the darkest  
hour,  
For the key she holdeth to His love and power.*

—Unknown.

## THE GROUND OF

EPH. 2:20

1 TIM. 3:15

Vol. 36, No. 48

"... we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men,  
specially of those that believe," 1 Tim. 4:10b.

Feb. 9, 1946

# Notices

## Port Huron Church Burns

News reached this office that our church at Port Huron, Michigan, lost their building in a fire Sunday morning, January 27. We extend sympathy to our brethren and friends of Port Huron, and hope they soon have a new place of worship.—*John C. Jernigan.*

## Change of Address

W. E. Dowdy, overseer of Nebraska—Old: Beatrice, Nebr. New: 1818 Burt St., Omaha, Nebr.

I have resigned my pastorate and am in the evangelistic work. I am open for calls. My address is 1624 Woodrow St., Little Rock, Ark.—*G. W. Chandler.*

## The Church of God on the Air

"Church of God Hour" over Station WGNC, Gastonia, N. C. Each Saturday from 1:00-1:30 p. m. Rev. Floyd Timmerman in charge.

Church of God, Toccoa, Ga., over WRLC, from 10:15-10:30 a. m. each week day. Each Sunday from 7:00-8:00 p. m. Rev. H. V. Fowler, pastor, Box 83, Toccoa, Ga.

## Special Thanks

A million thanks for the many prayers offered in my behalf. God is helping me, and I feel much better. I have had no more strokes since those December 2 and 3rd. I am, however, constantly aware of the lingering effects in my left side, particularly in my left arm and hand, which seem partly asleep all the time. Evidently I have, through the years, overtaxed my strength and am now suffering "battle fatigue" which causes me to become tired so easily.

Words fail me to express my appreciation for the prayers, anointed handkerchiefs, many letters, and numerous get-well cards I have received from almost everywhere.

Do help me to have faith to receive complete healing.—*J. H. Walker.*

## SPECIAL NOTICE TO EVANGELISTS

To all Evangelists who have not as yet sent in their 1945 license for renewal, please remember they became void December 31.—*John C. Jernigan, General Overseer.*

# DEATHS

## FINLEY

Little Anita Faye Finley, our infant daughter, went to be with Jesus January 12, 1946; age five months and twenty-five days.—*Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Finley, Rockingham, N. C.*

## MUFFET

Mrs. Cora Jane Muffet, Monticello, Ky., a faithful member of the Church of God, passed away January 9, 1946; age seventy-five years, three months, and nine days.—*Zona Blevins, Parnell, Ky.*

## SPEAKMAN

Sister Katie Speakman, a faithful member of the Church of God, passed away December 11, 1945; age fifty-five years, three months, and twenty-seven days.—*E. T. Hitte, pastor, Columbus, Ohio.*

## WILLIAMS

Mrs. P. C. Williams, Sweetwater, Tenn., age sixty years, went to be with Jesus January 8, 1946. She was a faithful member of the Church of God in Sweetwater. Pray for our home that God will save her children.—*Mrs. James Martin.*

# REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

## PRAY FOR:

The healing of my body, I am very nervous and weak in body.—*Mrs. M. J. Taylor, Rt. 1, Newport, N. C.*

God to completely heal me of something like low blood pressure; my home.—*Mrs. Mary Hopper c/o J. W. Long, Rt. 1, Gastonia, N. C.*

Me to be healed, I have been sick several months, and my eyes are so bad I can hardly see.—*Mrs. Minnie Harper, 315 Enterprise, Sidney, Ohio.*

The healing of my body, I have head and heart trouble, also other serious ailments.—*A reader, Broxton, Ga.*

The healing of a friend of tuberculosis; my brother who is to be sent to Germany soon for M.P. assignment.—*Mrs. W. W. Wilson, 1732 S. Lafayette St., Ft. Wayne 5, Ind.*

The healing of my body.—*Mrs. Herman Bryant, 1026 Poppa, Ft. Wayne, Ind.*

God to heal me of hemorrhoids,

growths, and nervousness.—*Joyce Johnston, 907 Buncombe St., Greenville, S. C.*

The Lord to heal me of gall bladder trouble, I am in the hospital now and really need your prayers.—*Mrs. Vivian Bankston, Ward 505, Bed 2, Charity Hospital, New Orleans, La.*

The Lord to heal my arm, I can hardly use it at times; my son in the navy; my family and me that God will undertake and direct us and comfort our hearts over the sudden death of our daddy and husband.—*Mrs. M. L. Cashatt, Rt. 1, Box 55, Lugoff, S. C.*

The saving and healing of our daughter of kidney trouble, she is seriously ill in the hospital, also that she be healed of sinus trouble, nervousness, goiter, and other troubles.—*Mrs. C. L. Brooks, Rt. 1, Loganville, Ga.*

The healing of my body, I have a severe case of asthma.—*Florida Evans, Logan, W. Va.*

The healing of a lady who is in a very, very nervous condition.—*Mrs. Minnie Bennett, Logan, W. Va.*

God to undertake for my husband.—*Mrs. Naomi Sprang, Rt. 2, Kenton, Ohio.*

My sister to be healed of t.b.—*Mrs. Helton, 35 W. Pennsylvania St., Tucson, Ariz.*

The healing of my little girl of kidney trouble.—*Georgia Ballard, Rt. 1, Leesburg, Fla.*

The healing of my mother, sister, and grandmother.—*Miss Johnnie Ruth Brown, Ringgold, Ga.*

The healing of my brother and his wife; my wife's healing.—*J. L. Johnson, Pine Hill, Ala.*

The Lord to heal Mrs. John Bates of gall stones.—*Rev. Shelby Michael, Gulston, Ky.*

The healing of my body.—*Mrs. M. Hood, 102 W. Main St., Statesboro, Ga.*

An urgent unspoken request.—*J. H. Dollar, Ewa Oahu, Box 297, G-12-T. H.*

God to heal my baby's leg.—*Mrs. E. V. Smith, Rt. 1, Dacula, Ga.*

The healing of my body of a severe back injury.—*Rev. S. R. Williams, Stuart, Fla.*

The healing of two sisters, mentally and physically; God to undertake for my daughter who lost her boy in the Pacific, she is very sick from grief.—*Mrs. Eliza Mays, Freeburn, Ky.*

The Lord to heal my father, he is  
(Continued on page 10)

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

# Selling the Birthright

By Billy Myers, Evangelist

The letter to the Hebrews is a presentation of the eternal danger of "failing of the grace of God." Certain Judaizers were incessantly persuading the Hebrew Christians to relapse into Judaism. Judaism is that doctrine of the Jews that holds that Christ is a false Messiah, an impostor, that stepped in between them and the real Messiah that is to come. So, for these Hebrew Christians to renounce Christ, after having tasted of the reality of His grace, and to deliberately say with these Judaizers that Christ was false, would be as one who "tramples under foot the blood of the covenant wherewith he was sanctified." Chapter 10:29. This would be as one who sells his birthright, as profane Esau; and might endanger them of sinning away their day of grace; so he warns them in the sixth chapter. Those who persist in sin do sell their birthright, and there is at length a dead-line in the mercy of God; if not in this world, there will be a dead-line in the world to come.

The words "impossible to renew" in the sixth chapter could refer to no other sin but the unpardonable, for that is the only sin that will put man in such a position that it is impossible to renew his experience. However, every one that falls away does not renounce Christ as an impostor and a false messiah as these Hebrews were about to do. In fact, very few believers fall away with such a sin as these Hebrews were tempted to commit. Notwithstanding, there is a great danger for every one that departs from God in unbelief.

I find in the book of Hebrews several distinct warnings of the danger of failing the grace of God. Tonight I want to read these as they appear in the Bible, but before we read I want you to look at the text again, "Lest any man fail of the grace of God." Notice, it's the man that fails the grace of God, and not grace that fails man. The grace of God is sufficient in its part, but there are some men that are not sufficient in their part. We have a part in religion and if we fail our part we will go to hell. I want to read these scriptures as they appear in the Bible,

◆ "Looking diligently, lest any man fail of the grace of God  
◆ . . . as profane Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his  
◆ birthright. For you know that afterward, when he would have  
◆ inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place  
◆ of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears," He-  
◆ brews 12:15-17. ◆

giving you reference by chapter and verse.

(1). Chapter 2:1: "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip." The margin reads, "Run out as a leaking vessel."

(2). Chapter 3:12: "Take heed, brethren (not sinners), lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God." I want you to notice that the warning here is not to the world, but to brethren, ANY of the brethren; the best of them should take heed.

(3). Chapter 3:13: "Lest ANY of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."

(4). Chapter 3:19 and 4:1: "So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief. Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it."

(5) Chapter 4:9-11: "There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God (a heavenly rest). For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief" (as did the Israelites, who, after being delivered from Egypt, failed to reach the promised land. They could not reach Canaan because of unbelief), an example of those who after being delivered from the bonds of sin relapse into sin in unbelief and fail to reach the heavenly rest. The warning reads: "Lest any man fail of the grace of God," and if you look at that word "fail" in the margin you will find it to read, in the original, "Lest any man 'fall from' the grace of God."

In the light of the great danger of failing the grace of God, the apostle forcefully warns the Hebrews, and then he backs the warning with a fearful example, Esau, who sold his birthright for one morsel of meat.

I want you to observe what a great and valuable thing Esau sold for such

a paltry sum. He sold his birthright for one dish of red bean soup, the price of one meal. When he sold his birthright, he did, in effect, sell his soul, for the birthright and its attending privileges answer to the new birth and its blessings. "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" The price of the whole world in comparison with the value of your soul is as one dish of soup, as one mess of pottage. Let us fear.

I have in mind several thoughts concerning Esau's sin.

1. What this birthright was.
2. What it signifies, or teaches us.
3. Why he sold it so cheaply.
4. How he afterward tried to repent and could not.

## WHAT THIS BIRTHRIGHT WAS

By virtue of his birth, being the first-born, he had the right of being prophet, priest, and king in his family. Moreover, it entitled him to a double portion of his father's estate. This means that Esau had the right of receiving at his father's death just twice as much as Jacob.

## WHAT THIS TEACHES US IN RELIGION

The birthright, which had to do with temporal things, was typical of the new birth, its benefits and privileges. The reserved right of being prophet, priest, and king in his father's family, reminds us of certain privileges which we look forward to in the kingdom of God: "And hath made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth." Rev. 5:10. And there is the double portion of the estate which reminds us of the blessing of eternal life, which is doubly more than we deserve. I want you to

(Continued on page 13)



# RELIGION... *and the World*

BY THE EDITOR

## Taylor Back to Vatican

Despite the many requests for recall of Myron C. Taylor, Truman's representative to the Vatican, the Pope reports that Taylor is expected to return in January. Protestant churches are here ignored.

## Lifting the Veil

Emperor Hirohito is reported by Rev. Henri Langlois, of Montreal, to have announced to the Japanese people that he is "not divine." If he now knows he is not divine, he at the same time admits his faith in, and most assuredly his need of God.

## Soviet A-Bomb

Dr. Raphael E. G. Armattoe, director of Lomeshie Research Center for Anthropology and Human Biology, has reported that Russia has an A-bomb "which renders the Anglo-American bomb obsolete." President Truman does not believe Russia has such a bomb. It has been reported, however, by our scientists that other discoveries made by them have rendered our own A-bomb obsolete. The world is in a pitiful plight and the days are at hand when "men's hearts (are) falling them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Luke 21:26), and we shall soon see the Lord of glory coming in the clouds.

## Bible Robes

A rejected king wore a "scarlet robe" (Matt. 27:28). A religious hypocrite wore "a long robe" (Luke 20:46). Ruling kings still wear "red robes" (Rev. 19:13). But prodigals may return and wear "the best robe" (Luke 15:22). A saint can wear "a white robe" (Rev. 7:9). Finally, the bride will wear a "fine linen robe" white and clean (Rev. 19:7).

## Going Through

Includes (1) praying "through," (2) through the waters, Isa. 43:2, (3) through the rivers, Isa. 43:2, (4) through the fire, Isa. 43:2, (5) through the flood, Psa. 66:6, (6) through the depths, Psa. 106:9, (7) through the deserts, Isa. 48:21, (8)

through the darkness, Job. 29:3, (9) through the wilderness, Deut. 2:7, and down through the shadow of death, Psa. 23:4, (10) through the gates, Rev. 22:14, into the king's palace, Psa. 45:15.

## The Truth About Cats

The story is told of a father in Nashville addicted to drink, who one morning, after he arose, told his family of a wonderful dream he had the previous night, in which he saw three cats, one fat, one lean, and one blind. He wondered what the dream meant. A little son promptly replied, "I know. The man who sells you the whiskey is the fat cat, mother is the lean cat, and you are the blind cat." God help these cats. They are supposed to have "nine lives" but if we could destroy the one liquor cat, the others would die.

## The Bible in California

The Bible still has friends in California, and, if it had none, it will win in the end.

"LOS ANGELES, Calif.—A law requiring that the Bible be read daily in California's public schools was proposed by officials of the California State Federation of Women's Clubs in communications received here by members of the Legislature.

"The proposal contends that Bible reading would help curb juvenile delinquency by developing reverence and moral character in pupils."

## The Possible Reason

It would appear from the following report by RNS that the sequel as to why the Protestants are not fully recognized in Italy, lies in the hope of uniting all Christians through the Catholic Church.

"ROME—Uniting Christians of all denominations throughout the world with Catholics in promoting international goodwill and combating anti-Christian influences, is the goal of Unitas, Catholic-sponsored interfaith organizations founded here last June. The association is the first of its kind to be endorsed by Pope Pius XII.

"Embracing 800 members, of whom 15 per cent are non-Catholics, Unitas

is controlled by a central international committee of eleven members, all of whom are Catholics."

Unity is a desirable thing, but unity in organization does not possess the realities of unity in spirit and in faith, without which unity of organization is a thing powerless to save or to satisfy a hungry human soul.

## Church Membership Increase

A recent report of church membership in the United States shows an increase in the amount of 38.2 over an eighteen-year period. The Census Religious Bodies in 1926 reported 54,576,346 members, while 1943-44 report gives 72,492,669 church members, or 52.5 of the entire population. Now don't you know if there were anything like such an amount of real Christians in the United States, this would be a different country from what it is.

## YOUTH IN CHURCH

An increase of 33.4 was made in membership of thirteen years of age, of churches reporting.

## HOW THEY STAND

In the eighteen-year period, the Southern Baptist Convention gained 60.8 per cent; the United Lutheran Church, 39.2 per cent; the Lutheran Missouri Synod, 30.4 per cent; the Roman Catholic Church, 25.9 per cent; the Disciples of Christ, 21.4 per cent; the Northern Baptist Convention, 20.6 per cent; the Protestant Episcopal Church, 19.8 per cent; the Methodist Church, 19 per cent; Jewish Congregations, 13.7 per cent; the Congregational Christian Churches, 8.1 per cent; and the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., 7.7 per cent.

## THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

Official Organ of the Church of God

Published weekly by

The Church of God Publishing House  
Cleveland, Tennessee

E. C. CLARK, Editor and Publisher  
Phone 21

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## SUBSCRIPTION RATE

One year, \$1.00; single copy, 5c.

Entered as second-class matter March 1, 1910, Cleveland, Tenn., under act of March 3, 1879. Acceptance for mailing at special rate postage provided for in section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, Authorized August 23, 1918.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

# Eternal Punishment FOR THE WICKED

By Cpl. Howard G. Kiser

*St. John 5:28,29, "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good unto the resurrection of life: and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation."*

Some ministers today seem to hesitate a little when they come to the subject of eternal punishment for the wicked, sometimes called hell, eternal fire, eternal punishment, or the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone. I, as a follower of Christ, have learned by experience that a Christian that will dare talk along these lines, or a minister that will preach a hell-fire sermon is not very popular with the world, especially the world of today that is full of sin, unbelief, and formality, but should we be slow to teach and stand for God's truth? Can God's people compromise with an unbelieving world? I say, No, a thousand times No. God forbid that we should yield to the devil in the least. Did not the great apostle Paul tell Timothy to preach the word? Is not this subject found in the Word of God? Did not the writer say in the 9th Psalm, "The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all nations that forget God"?

There are people today that will stand in places of worship, in the holy pulpit, behind the sacred desk of God, and declare, "there is no eternal punishment." But I declare unto you, precious soul, upon the authority of God's Holy Word, there is a hell just as sure as there is a heaven—a hell to shun and a heaven to gain. Let God be the truth and every man a liar, saith the Word.

Let us turn now to God's Word and let Him speak to us through the written Word. Look at Daniel 12:2, "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt." My friend, the word "everlasting" means some-

thing that has no ending. Now what could be worse punishment than to live throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity in shame and everlasting contempt? I would rather have eternal life, would not you? Praise God for the gift of life. Someone might say, "Brother, that scripture that you just quoted is in the Old Testament and might well be for the children of Israel only, the Jewish race."

Well, let us now go to the New Testament and consider the words of our blessed Lord in the 18th chapter of Matthew, and the 8th verse. "Wherefore, if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: It is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire." Open your Bible and read on through the 9th verse of the same chapter. Then turn with me to the 25th chapter of the same book, and the 46th verse, "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous unto life eternal." Who went away into everlasting punishment? Only those that failed to do the will of God.

Thus saith the Lord, 2 Tim. 3:16, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." Shall we believe the Bible or the doctrine of men? 2 Peter 1:21, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." JESUS told the people one time to "Repent ye and believe the gospel," Mark 1:15. Precious friend, when He said "the gospel" I believe He meant all the book rightly divided; not just a verse here and cast the rest aside, but accept it all from the beginning of Genesis to the end of Revelation. In other words, eat the book, like John the divine did. Rev. 10:9, "That it may be in thy belly bitter but in thy mouth sweet as honey." Hallelujah! I feel just like the precious old saint when asked if she believed that the whale swallowed Jonah. She replied by say-

ing, "Yes, and if the Bible had said that Jonah swallowed the whale, I would have believed that too." Friend, let us believe the Bible.

Jesus said in Luke 16:19, "There was a certain rich man." V. 20, "There was a certain beggar named Lazarus." Read the 16th chapter of Luke and you will see for yourself that Jesus said there was a rich man and also a beggar, not might have been, or could have been, but there WAS. We can say that one was a sinner and the other a Christian. They both died. Where did they go? The beggar died and was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man died and was buried. Let the Word speak for itself. V. 23, "And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom." Read how he cried for MERCY but TOO LATE.

In closing, let us go to the 14th chapter of Revelation, 10th and 11th verses, "The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb. And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." Surely, friend, if you have studied your Bible you can easily see that this means everyone that has not his name written in the LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE at that time. Listen, precious soul, God loves you and His people love you; why not surrender to Christ and accept and teach His word?

Please turn to Rev. 22:18, 19, "If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues written in this book: and if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

(Continued on page 14)

True

# VISIONS

Prov. 29:18, "Where there is no vision the people perish; but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

By Ida Bradley

**F**OR SOME TIME I have felt impressed to write on this subject, though much has been said through criticism about visions, and some critics have tried to reprove those that live true enough to God to get a vision. First, it would be well for all of us to remember that where the Bible reproves visions was where false prophets saw false visions. Naturally, that would be true. Anyone would reprove a vision that would not tally with the Word of God, but any holy man of God could well be led by God through visions to his field of labor as the disciples before us were.

Joel 2:28, "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions." This began to be fulfilled at Pentecost when the Spirit was poured out upon them and they received the Holy Ghost, and in this day when we too are enjoying an outpouring of the Spirit. Some disciples in this day are seeing visions like they did after Pentecost. Paul was a great disciple and many of us would do well to pattern after him. On one occasion he told his disciples to follow him while he followed Christ. Many times he was directed by God to his field of labor through visions. One time Paul had a list of places he wanted to go to preach, but they were not the places God needed him most, and while on his journey to one place he saw a vision in the night that set him right. Thank God for visions.

Acts 16:9, "And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us." Paul believed in visions and did not let Satan tell him he was seeing things, or that there was not anything to his vision, but Paul was living close enough to God to know God's voice.

St. John 10:27, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me." God knows us; He knows whether or not we are willing to fol-

low Him. If we were more willing to follow God, instead of wanting God to follow us, we would be led by visions more to the perfect will of God, and where He needs us most, for where there is no vision the people perish. Many souls are perishing today because the leaders won't follow. Paul followed the vision and went to Macedonia and it was at this place that Paul and Silas were put into prison. While they were in jail, they did not let the devil discourage them about their vision, but began to pray and sing praises to God for the holy guidance. While they sang and prayed, the power of God shook that old jail door open and a revival broke out. They did not have to preach for weeks to convert the people, but they fell at the apostles' feet and said, "What must we do to be saved?"

Another time, God led the prayer warriors together to start a revival by vision, Acts 10:3-5, where he saw in a vision, evidently about the ninth hour of the day, an angel of God coming in to him; and saying unto him, Cornelius. And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, Lord?" And He said unto him, "Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. And now send men to Joppa, and call for one

Simon, whose surname is Peter." He obeyed the vision and sent for Peter, and while Cornelius' servants were on their way, Peter, too, saw a vision, a very special one.

I imagine the devil told Peter he was so hungry he had a nightmare, but instead of Peter turning God off as a nightmare, he thought on the vision. Acts 10:19, "While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee." Peter, too, obeyed the vision, which was contrary to anything that Peter himself would have done, but God's ways and thoughts are higher than ours, and He knows best for us. And where Peter followed the Lord to his field of labor, results were that the Holy Ghost was given to the Gentiles, too, when the Jews thought it was only for them.

If we had more prayer warriors like Paul, Peter, and Cornelius, we would see more visions, and less people would perish, for when people are out of the will of God and in the wrong place, because they fail to get a vision, don't say they're not God's men, but they're just out of the will of God. Jonah was God's servant, but while he was traveling in the wrong direction all on the ship were in danger of death, because he was not in the will of God. Many times innocent people suffer because a Jonah is on the ship. If there was ever a time that people are perishing more than now I don't know when it was, for people are dying in every form of death that could be mentioned, both naturally and spiritually.

I hope and pray that we can live so near the Lord we will see more treasured visions, and when we get old then begin dreaming dreams, for where there is no vision the people perish.

## JESUS ONLY

By Mrs. Opal Capell

I wonder what God thinks as He looks down from heaven on this old sin-corrupted world. I wonder if He thinks it was really worth the trouble, all the pain, heartaches, anguish, and, finally, the life of His precious Son. He did this to save the world from sin, and yet the majority won't have Him.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Glory to God! Aren't you glad He

did that? Just think what it would mean if that hadn't happened. It would mean we would be eternally lost and damned through no fault of our own, and yet some people will be lost by choice.

It is hard to think of anybody in his right mind, refusing to enter and take up his abode in the wonderful, marvelous, and glorious place that Jesus has prepared for us, and choosing that awful place called hell, to ever be in darkness with the devil and his angels; yet, some are doing that.

Oh, they would be glad to have (Continued on page 14)



# “WHO ARE YOU?” --- DEVIL

Quoting the devil here, elucidates to us the knowledge and intelligence of him with whom we are up against in Christ's stead. The combats between Satan and Jesus are recorded in many instances in the four Gospels, and in every record we find Jesus the conqueror. Though there were engagements of actual marshalled wits and fortitude extremely tested between the two, when our Savior reached the point of argument that would teach even us the lesson in truth, in our days of tests and proof, He caused Satan to stumble away immediately, out of His presence in defeat. Jesus kept His disciples in the name of the Father while on earth, as recorded in St. John 17:12. The 6th verse declares, too, that He “manifested” the “name of God,” meaning that as He spoke in the name of the Father, every ordeal of confronting Satan was accomplished. Meaning, too, as is recorded in that 12th verse, He kept all the Father gave Him other than the betrayer, who fulfilled prophecy.

In the name of the Father, Jesus called and kept every true follower. If there were any sick or afflicted among the disciples of Christ, He healed them every whit of whatsoever disease he or she may have had. And, dear brother, He kept them well and sound. Can you for a minute imagine any of His disciples dragging their sick or afflicted bodies around after Christ? I can't. No, brother minister, He kept them in the name of God, and kept them in every sense of the word.

As Jesus spoke in the name of the Father while on this earth, devils trembled and were made to fear of losing their dwelling place in the bodies of men, and did, for devils were cast out and commanded of our Lord to stay out. Though the intelligence of reasoning with Christ, and persistence, was exploited by the evil spirits, Jesus had thus spoken, in the name of God. Hence, the devils were on their way out.

Now when Jesus was on His way out of earth's population, He admonished His disciples and prayed the

Father to make them one, “as thou Father, art in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us,” John 17: 21. And we hear Jesus saying to them in John 20:21, “Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.” And so we find these same commanded friends and disciples of Christ doing in continuance the works of Jesus with equal results, in His name (Jesus). As the apostles and disciples spoke now in the name of Jesus, devils were made to tremble, were cast out and put to flight from the tormented bodies of men. All these great feats recorded in Acts are the acts of believing followers of the Son of God.

Now the secret of success in defeating Satan with all his demon hold on humanity, and his hold on even God's very children, is in “His name” (the name of Jesus). But, brother minister, there is more than simple surface speech concerned here, far more than just saying the words “in the name of Jesus.” Even though it may be said or spoken in all sincerity, as it has been, and continues to be, though without desired results, even commanded with all gravity of earnestness, the work of the power of God to do is forestalled by the very expression itself lacking the wholesome quality and sufficiency of equal, mutual faith of that of Christ. The devil connives at our efforts to do “in the name of Jesus.” He knows better than we when the significance of “in the name of Jesus” is poised to launch a stroke against him to the extent of defeating him on grounds of battle unto victory. For instance, take the time of Paul, in the 19th chapter of Acts, God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul, so from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them. This Paul did “in the name of Jesus.” But certain vagabond Jews took upon them to accomplish these great results. After seeing Paul work the work of God, they called to one side persons who had evil

spirits, and directed their commands directly to the spirits, saying the same thing as did Paul, “We adjure you by Jesus (in the name of Jesus) whom Paul preacheth, to come out.” But instead of doing as directed, we hear the devils talking back in an obstinate tone of derision, saying, “Jesus we know, and Paul we know, but who are ye?” And the man in whom the evil spirits were, leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of the house naked and wounded. Of course, these Jews had in mind vainglory and merchandise, I presume. Nevertheless, the devils were not in the least disturbed by their speaking. The fact is, brethren, the devil knows if we, or anyone else, are sufficient to do the work commanded. In all sincerity to our kind efforts to be representatives of Christ in the earth to a needy people, we, too, meet with rebuff from Satan. I have never had an injury, bodily, from Satan, in my experience, as did the vagabond Jews, but I've been left feeling so naked before him that I felt shorn of any cloak of sufficiency of God that I may have had.

There is one thing certain, on the occasions that we needed to accomplish most for God, we can't boast of more than the vagabonds did in results, for them which needed our help. As did Satan to the vagabonds, he has done to us—he prevailed. “Who are ye?” he has said to us too many times, and now it is time that we do something about it, don't you think? Who are ye, brother ministers? We have tolerated Satan too long. He acknowledges the power of Jesus. He knew Paul. Paul was one of many who became “one” with the Father and Son. We are privileged to do so, and also commanded. Let us believe and obey God for His best. How? The question arises in our hearts, for we know that our ministers are the best in the world. It was through our convictions for the truth that we became ministers of the Church of God. We have the Church, its name, its integrity of proper speech and conduct in its procedure of organic behavior, and over all, brethren, we have the Word of God in truth; but one thing we lack, and that simply is the result which the Word teaches can be accomplished by obedience of that Word. We quote Paul in 2 Cor. 10:4-7, (“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;”) Casting down

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# I Believe God

By Chester Skuler



*"Sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me."*

—Acts 27:25.

The Apostle Paul was the speaker. Some 275 persons were his audience. The place was on board a storm-tossed ship; the time, near midnight. The audience contained desperate, depressed, discouraged folks. Only the speaker was confident, hopeful of rescue. The other 275 expected only death, for the ship, it seemed, must speedily be dashed to pieces on the rocks. The "tempestuous wind" (Acts 27:14) threw the ship wildly about and they were "exceedingly tossed with a tempest" (v. 18). Fourteen days and nights of this nerve-tearing experience was enough to make all of them frantic with fear. The marvel of it was that any of the 276 souls in the ship (v. 37) could be cheerful. Neither sun nor stars had shone upon the sea for many days (v. 20), which added to the frightfulness of the scene. All were too frightened and desperate even to eat.

Now comes Paul, one of the prisoners, aboard this ship, and urges them to "be of good cheer"! What folly, the other 275 thought! This man must have taken leave of his senses, they decided. "There shall not one of you lose his life," Paul continued, "although we shall lose the ship." Now they were certain that this prisoner was crazy. How could they survive if the ship—their only visible hope of escape—were lost?

Probably they jeered the speaker, or otherwise expressed their unbelief in his statement. He continued speaking. "There stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I BELIEVE GOD, that it shall be even as it was told me. Howbeit we must cast upon a certain island."

Paul, the speaker, the one among 276 persons who was confident, had just had converse with Almighty God. God had given him a specific promise. Paul believed this promise, because he BELIEVED GOD. Now he was telling the good news to his fear-crazed com-

panions. His message does not seem to have impressed them greatly, however. Soon some of the sailors planned a selfish escape (v. 30) from the doomed ship. Paul saw them. He approached the centurion, with a warning. "Except these abide in the ship, ye cannot be saved," he said, pointing to the treacherous sailors. They cut the ropes and allowed their boat to fall off, the Word adds... we do not read of their fate, but it can be imagined.

After a time, morning arrived. All were glad for the light for which they had been wishing (v. 29). Paul urged them to eat food, saying, "This is the fourteenth day that ye have tarried and continued fasting, taking nothing. Wherefore I pray you to take some meat: for this is for your health: for there shall not an hair fall from the head of any of you" (vv. 33, 34).

Setting the example, Paul then took bread (v. 35) and GAVE THANKS TO GOD in the presence of them all (v. 35). Even under those trying, frightful circumstances, Paul did not forget to give thanks for the food. What a lesson for modern-day Christians! How easy it is to forget the important things of the Christian life, especially in times of worry, danger or distress. As soon as Paul had given thanks, he began to eat. "Then were they all of good cheer, and they also took some meat" (v. 36). Paul's example proved beneficial. Not only did they strengthen their bodies, but their spirits as well were cheered. Now they could think and plan better. After they had eaten enough, they decided to lighten the ship. They had a cargo of wheat aboard, and this they threw into the sea (v. 38).

"Land! Land!" Probably the glad cry broke forth from the watch about that time. Some body of land was just

ahead (v. 39). They sought a harbor and discovered a "certain creek" into which they determined to sail the ship. Probably they thought, "This prisoner's words are partly true. We shall be saved. But he said our ship would be lost—well, he's wrong there!" But was he? When they tried to steer the ship into the creek's mouth, it ran aground; the forepart stuck fast, and the rear part was broken off by the violence of the waves (v. 41). Wild confusion must have occurred. Only Paul was calm. The soldiers were responsible for the safe delivery of their prisoners; if they did not, then they might suffer dire punishment. So they decided to kill the prisoners, lest any escape by swimming to land. However, Paul had made a good impression upon the centurion, or commander. He wanted to save Paul, so he did not permit the soldiers to kill their charges. "All you who can swim, cast yourselves overboard!" he commanded. "Try to swim to land." It was a thrilling moment. Some clung to boards, some to broken pieces and other things from the ship (v. 44), and some swam. All escaped safely to land, as Paul had predicted. But the ship itself was lost. God does not give false messages; Paul, a faithful messenger, had given God's message correctly.

When Paul uttered those dramatic words, "I believe God!" he knew the kind of God in whom he had such great faith and confidence. He knew Him as the God of the Red Sea, the God who spoke peace to Lake Galilee, the God who changed the water into wine, the God who parted the Jordan River. Paul knew His power, His love, His faithfulness, from past experience and study. Paul knew the Scriptures, and was aware of the mighty works of God in Old Testament times. He knew Jesus himself—had met Him face to face (Acts 9) during His lifetime. How confidently, then, Paul could say, "I believe that IT SHALL BE even as it was told me" (v. 25). The other 275 of his comrades aboard the doomed ship probably did not know much about Paul's God. Possibly when he said that God had promised to "give" to Paul all the persons that sailed with him, they did not understand his meaning (v. 24).

They must have believed, now that they were indeed all safe on dry land; now that the ship was indeed lost, with all of its cargo of wheat. Yes, it is easy to look backward through life and see how wonderfully God has

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# Prayer

Before we start this discussion on prayer, we should ask ourselves the question, *What is prayer?* Well, I think that prayer can be said to be a communion with God. It is a time when our spirits commune. God is a spirit and therefore we must worship him in spirit. As the cross is a connecting link between the Old and New Testament, so is prayer a connecting link between our hearts and God. It is a means by which we can bring our trials and tribulations to Him. If we would only set our problems before God, he would show us what to do. Our problems may be as mountains, but after we bring them to God, they become as mere molehills.

Next, we should ask the question, *When should we pray?* First of all, we should set aside a specific time during each day when we can commune with God. So many people live such rushed lives that they never take time out to pray. They forget about God. We should spend more time with God, asking Him to forgive our sins and to give us strength to be better Christians. We also should pray before our meals. Some people think that to ask grace before a meal is old-fashioned. But we should be thankful that we have food to feed our bodies. We don't know what it is to be hungry. The people of France, Italy, and other war-torn countries have been hard hit by this war. Wherever and whenever the Germans retreated before the Allied offenses, they either destroyed or took with them anything of any value. Therefore, these peoples have been left with nothing. You should see the looks of hunger on their faces. They would be thankful to have the garbage that we throw away. Eating in several mess halls throughout France and Italy, there were always children waiting by the garbage can for garbage that we were going to throw away. And then, we don't even take time to pray before our meals when we have an abundance of food despite rationing. When you eat a meal in a restaurant, do you take time to bow your head and ask grace? So many so-called Christians have backbones like a jellyfish. They are afraid to stand up and show other people that they are Christians. They practice their Christian customs when they are in a Christian crowd,

By Pfc. Robt. E. Nelson

but when they get out away from this protective environment, they just follow along with the crowd like a raft floating down a river.

The story is told of a young Christian fellow who spent a summer working in a lumber camp with rough and tough lumberjacks. When he came back in the fall, his pastor asked him if it was hard to live a Christian life in such an environment. But the fellow answered with the reply, "I didn't let them know that I was a Christian." Are you ashamed to be a Christian?

*Do you pray only when you are in trouble?* So many people pray to God with the attitude, "O God, I need your help, I am in trouble." But after the crisis is over, they forget about God. They forget that God had helped them. There were ten lepers cured, but only one of them came back to thank Jesus. When God helps us, let's not forget to thank Him.

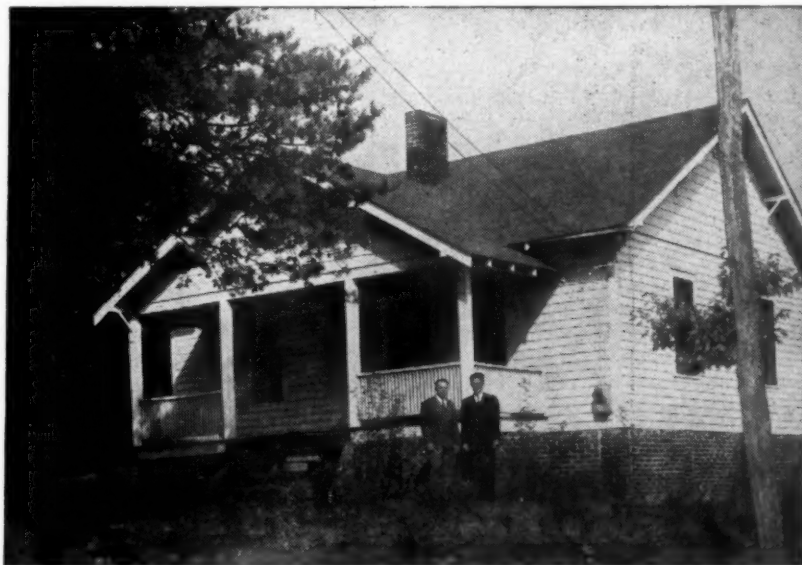
We should pray whenever we feel

the need to commune with God. And of course, it is only natural to pray to God when we are in church and we can feel the presence of God. But we should guard our prayers in church so that they don't become a habit and mere forms. We should think what we are praying, and not just mumble through a lot of words.

Next, we should answer the question *How should we pray?* To answer this question, we should go to the book of Matthew and see what Jesus said concerning prayer. Matt. 6:5-7, "And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as hypocrites: for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and in corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father who seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." We should come before God in all humbleness, not as hypocrites, trying to show off, but we should come to God as the

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## PARSONAGE AT MARION, NORTH CAROLINA



This is the parsonage of the Church of God at Marion, N. C. The two men in front are our pastor, Brother C. M. Roseman, on the left, and Merley Hensley, clerk and treasurer, on the right.

Brother Roseman came to Marion this September a year ago and purchased the parsonage. Six weeks later he put on a drive among the church people and the business men of Marion and raised \$748 for the down payment. It is a five-room home with nice hardwood floors and is near the church. It is appreciated by the people. We also have a nice large church with no indebtedness. We appreciate Brother Roseman and his wife for they worked hard this past year to purchase the parsonage. We have just thirty-six members. Pray for us at Marion.—Merley Hensley, clerk and treasurer.

# REPORTS *From the Field*

## God Can Make a Way

**WILLIAMSTON, N. C.**—I am happy to greet you in the name of our precious Lord and Savior. I haven't been in the Church of God a year yet, but I really love it. It was through fasting and prayer that God showed me the Church. Praise His holy name!

We do not have a church or a building here in which to work, but I know God is God, glory to God, and He is able to make a way where there seemeth no way. We do not have any Christian men to work right here in our community, just a few of us women, but please pray that God will help us. Pray for God to move everything out of the way that may be a hindrance.—Mrs. Roy Ward.

## Youth Rally of the Johnson City, Tenn., District

Our youth rally for January was held at the Church of God in Johnson City, Tenn. The church was filled to its capacity. Truly we appreciate the cooperation of the people; our youth on this district surely are doing things for God. In this rally there were waves of glory that will be blessed memories to the minds of our youth as long as they live. Everyone seemed to be on fire for God.

We also appreciate our youth superintendent of the Johnson City district, Rev. W. C. Weaver, who is a live wire for God and a man who is loved by all. He has his heart in the work and is putting forth every effort that he can for the youth. Brother Weaver made just a short talk, gave the people a chance to give, and in just a short time we had \$130 for missions.

I would like to express my appreciation for our good district overseer, Rev. J. D. Wilson, one of the best with whom I have ever worked, and a real man of God; he is loved by all of the district.

Rev. W. R. Wilbanks brought us a soul-stirring message. Brother Wilbanks is one of our outstanding young preachers and this great message will live long in the minds of the older people, as well as our youth. Truly we appreciate young men who can preach the Word like Brother Wilbanks, under the power of the Holy Ghost. That message was a blessing to all.—W. C.

King, 1249 Chestnut St., Kingsport, Tenn.

## Youth Rally for Miami District

Our youth rally for January was held at the Church of God in Key West, Fla. I feel sure that all those in attendance were spiritually blessed, and will have something long to be remembered.

The Lord certainly did bless us with His presence from the beginning. May His work ever ring out in songs of praise! With us were young people's quartets and trios from the churches of the district, which was certainly enjoyed by everyone.

May our young people use their talent for the Lord. He will do great things for us if we will let Him have control of our lives.

Brother Y. W. Kidd is our district superintendent, and he has this work at heart. Young people, let's all encourage him in the work he is doing.

After the meeting, refreshments were served and we had fellowship together.

We had one hundred persons in attendance. At our next youth rally let's double that! It will be held in Ft. Lauderdale on February 15, at 8:00. May God bless us.—Mrs. G. P. Pipkins, reporter.

## Church Organized

**CEDAR GROVE, W. Va.**—Greetings to you all. I thank God for a real good working church here. I thank God for Rev. Louis Kinsolving's holding on to God for this church here. He begged and pled for someone to come over here and hold a revival, so finally after three years of praying and shedding tears, God sent Brother Nicely. He held a three weeks' meeting and organized a good church with thirteen charter members and there will be some to come in by transfer.

We have a good L.W.W.B. It is growing well. We had fifty-one in Sunday School last Sunday. It is still growing. We have thirty-three on roll in our Y.P.E. We have a good building, which was given to us by Mrs. Tompkins. Pray for her. She is really sick. Pray for us, that we will do the right thing. We want to rebuild the church.

That is what the L.W.W.B. is working for.—Mrs. Anna Knight, sec.-treas., L.W.W.B. and Y.P.E., Box 174.

## REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

(Continued from page 2)

in very bad health.—Mrs. Vera Session, Box 161, Marvel, Ala.

The healing of little Ernest E. Moore, Jr., of kidney poison, his little body is swollen all over.—His father, Ernest E. Moore, Sr., c/o Pima County Hospital, Tucson, Ariz.

The saving of my soul and healing of my body, I am in very bad health and am very nervous; my brother to be healed, he was in a car wreck and suffers with his head all the time; my mother to be healed.—Mrs. John White, East Alton, Ill.

My brother who has a very bad heart to be healed.—Sarah Thompson, 498 Master St., Corbin, Ky.

The Lord to heal my body, he has double pneumonia; me, I am just recovering from the flu.—Mrs. G. M. Goff, Gasparilla, Fla.

The salvation and healing of my husband.—Mary Romines, Rt. 1, Middleport, Ohio.

The healing of my body.—Mattie Fowler, Rt. 2, Box 13, Liberty, N. C.

Mother to be healed and saved; she is eighty-two years old.—Harvey Morrison, Rockwood, Pa.

The healing of my stepson.—Mrs. W. L. Pirkle, Rt. 1, Rossville, Ga.

God to undertake in my father's home; my children to be healed of colds.—Mrs. Albert King, Pittsview, Ala.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. E. T. Curtsinger, Rt. 6, Box 99, Oklahoma City, Okla.

The Lord to heal me of t. b.—Rosie-lee Smith, Ahwahnee, Calif.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Julia Bryant, 511 E. Seventh St., Lexington 38, Ky.

A special unspoken request.—Angeline Fannin, Naugatuck, W. Va.

My healing of sciatic nerve trouble, not able to walk, stiff in hip joint, walk very little on crutches, whole right side from head to foot affected, don't pain while sitting but pain terribly trying to walk; tried to do what I could for God when I was able to go, would like to hear from some of my far-away friends, those I knew while on the battlefield for God; would be like company coming to see me; can't go but I'm praying for you all.—Man-nie Walker, 1811 Hicks Street, Augusta, Ga.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

# REVIVALS

GLASGOW, W. Va.—We have just closed the most wonderful revival that has been conducted at Cedar Grove. Rev. R. Nicely was our evangelist; he proved a blessing to this church, which will never be forgotten. Our district pastor reorganized the church. We have a very nice group of people added to the church and we are looking to go over the top for God and His Church.—Rev. L. E. Kinsolving, pastor.

La FOLLETTE, Tenn.—Sister Bessie Jones conducted a revival here in the month of November. Large crowds attended and good interest was shown, especially during the first weeks of favorable weather. About fifteen were saved, and some prayed through to sanctification and the Holy Ghost. The Rythemette Trio from Knoxville, Brother Walter Powell's Quartet, and the Riggs Quartet, rendered special music during the revival. Visitors attended this revival from several churches in Tennessee and some from Kentucky.

I think it is a good beginning to take inventory of what we have done the past year and resolve to do as good, or even better, during the new year. In the past year we have ceiled the church inside, started new Sunday School rooms, built a new choir, elevated the floor, installed a furnace, and built a new porch to the parsonage. We also have the material to start two more rooms to the parsonage. God has been good to us and has prospered the work at La Follette under the leadership of Brother and Sister McGee.—Ruth V. Baird, reporter.

CALHOUN, Ga.—I want to report the good revival at Hazard, Ky. We certainly found a fine number of saints to work with at Hazard, and I had the privilege of conducting the first revival in their nice, new building. Their good pastor and wife surely are splendid people with whom to work. They showed me such hospitality.

There were several saved and sanctified and some filled with the Holy Ghost.

The weather was very bad while we were there. A big snow was on the ground, but God certainly did bless in each service. Due to the weather and changing climate, we suffered with a cold, so we probably closed out a week too soon. I left as soon as the altar call had been made on Sunday night, with the altar filled with seekers.—A. W. Hall, Route 3, Calhoun, Ga.

SALEM, W. Va.—I am glad to report the results of a revival held here in Salem church, which ended on Sunday, December 23, and had been in progress for three weeks. There were fifteen saved, ten sanctified, eleven added to the church, and thirteen baptized in water. Our pastor, Rev. Clyde Atkins, was the evangelist.

We are now in another revival, which started January 6 with Sister Lillian Frey as the evangelist. Please pray for great results.

We love and are proud of Sister Lillian and Sister Hazel Clevenger, her co-worker, as they are home girls. We surely enjoy their singing.

We also have some new converts who are singing for us, and we enjoy hearing them, too.—Gemilla Wilson, 284 W. Main St., Salem, W. Va.

## "WHO ARE YOU?"—DEVIL

(Continued from page 7)

imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; and having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, WHEN YOUR OBEDIENCE is fulfilled." So there is an obedience unto God yet to be accomplished in truth to bring the mighty works of God about. I'm convinced that imaginations on our part need to be broken down first and removed as the greatest obstruction in our way, as a handicap to our obedience to God to accomplish His purpose in us. To imagine that our efforts at present are all that God expects, and His perfect will is being fulfilled in us, I fear is a vain imagination and we shall sorrowfully regret our failing to go deeper in the mind and heart of God, yes, His "perfect

will." No doubt we are in His "acceptable will," for He does accept our efforts, but His "perfect will," I fear, goes without being accomplished.

Do we not know, yes know, that it is God's perfect will to defeat Satan now by healing the sick and afflicted, especially among His representatives on this earth? Yes, I think so. Now that 7th verse, quoting Paul, "Do ye look on things after the outward appearance?" If ANY MAN trust to himself that he is Christ's, let him of himself think this again, that as he is Christ's even so are we Christ's. Paul might have said consistently that, "Even so am I Christ's," but he was speaking for the church and, of course, used the plural "we," which truly is an open challenge to our sufficiency in God. Meaning, too, that Paul expects those who receive his teachings of truth to be equal to him as the called-of-God especially, and are in his mind without excuse since he certainly registered surprise as recorded.

Some, no doubt, were attempting the preaching of the gospel of Christ without accomplishing the results taught. Paul spoke in Romans, 1st chapter, 11th and 12 verses, thus: "For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted TOGETHER WITH YOU BY THE MUTUAL FAITH both of YOU and ME." Yes, brethren, Paul spoke of a MUTUAL FAITH, that is, a faith equal to his own, in quality and results, hence a comfort in mutuality in every sense of comfort.

How can we accomplish this desired thing? Just like Paul accomplished it.

Are we the called-of-God? Then, if we are, our battle is nearly won, for entering into the unreservable surrender to God is the thing we fear. Though we must enter, brethren, with fear and trembling, Paul is our example of accomplishment in the thing we desire and purpose of God. God is waiting and so are we, but the formula is laid down for us in 2 Cor. 4:5-18, with emphasis on the 5th and 13th verses. Let us enter in for God. The time is short. What we do for our Savior and Christ must be done quickly. Let us do our best. While our boys have died heavily for things that will not live, let us be dying for things that live while dying, and more marvelous, dying while we live, and others shall live, too. Yes, and the church will live. God bless you.



# Testimonies..

## Praise for Healing

CARROLLTON, Ga.—I am happy to say I am healed. I was praying the morning you prayed for me, at the same time you prayed (in the prayer room at the Publishing House), and I went off to sleep at 10 o'clock and slept until 2 o'clock. When I awoke, I was so happy I couldn't sit still. I wanted to thank you for praying. Continue to pray for me.—Mrs. Neut West, 10 Almon St.

## All Things Work Out for Good

COOKEVILLE, Tenn.—I want to add my little testimony to say I love the Lord. He has been so good to my family and me. Bless His good name.

I was left with seven little children, with no help but a fourteen-year-old girl. Sin was to blame for all this. I am thankful that she was a good girl, and willing to share the burdens.

The children are grown today, but I am sad that they are all in sin except two, who are saved and have the Holy Ghost. I have prayed for these a long time, and believe God will save them some time. Please, all who read this, pray for these five lost children. They didn't know what it was to have a father in the home with them to help teach them. He left home seventeen years ago, but God knows all things, and everything works out for good to them that love the Lord. Bless His good name! I love Him and want to do His will. Please pray for me, that I may do His will.

One more thing I want to add—I have been healed three times. He is still the same yesterday, today and forever.—Mrs. E. V. Ramsey, 508 Fifth St.

## Relief Through Prayer

MIAMI, Fla.—I want to sound a note of praise for my Savior and Healer. His name is Jesus, bless His name!

I have severe headaches. The pain is terrible and lasts for weeks sometimes. I had a bad spell a while back, and I promised the Lord if He would heal me of them, I would write and testify about it. He did touch my body, and I got relief, but I am not completely healed. I am trusting God for complete healing. I know He is able, and will do what He says He

will, if we will only trust Him. He is so good to us and has healed me many times, for which I thank and praise Him. He is real to me.—Mrs. George Laird, 722 N. W. 22nd St.

## Nothing Is Beneath His Notice

SHAW, Miss.—I truly thank God for His many blessings and His wonderful healing power. I thank Him for healing me of the earache last night, and for touching my mother's body the other night. She didn't know anything, and I kept begging God to heal her. He did, and I give Him all the glory.

Pray for me that I will do His will and be a true and faithful servant.—Myrtle McKnight, Route 1, Box 315.

## Boy Healed When Bleeding to Death

ALBANY, Ga.—Dear Evangel Readers, I praise our blessed Savior for His wonderful love, mercy, and healing power. I thank Him for healing my little boy when he stuck an ice pick in his throat and was bleeding to death. Some of the neighbors said all I could do was call the undertaker, that he would be dead before the doctor could get there, but, praise the Lord, I called on Jesus and He healed him right before their eyes.

Also, I praise the Lord for healing my daughter of the flu just a few weeks past. I know He is just the same today as when He was here on this earth in person. He will never fail us, if we will hold on to His unchanging hand.

Pray for my family and me, that we will continue in the Lord. Pray for the healing of my body, I am trusting Him. I feel that He has already touched me in some ways but I want complete victory.—Mrs. Estelle Dowling, 700 Society Ave.

## Wonderfully Healed of Tuberculosis

WINDSOR, S. C.—Well, almost three years ago at Horseshoe, Fla., I was condemned to die with that dreadful disease tuberculosis of the lungs. They refused to take me in the tuberculosis camp, said I was too near dead, that they could not do anything for me. Listen, men, women, and children, if you ever have a death sentence passed on you, right then you will think about dying; it doesn't matter what kind of a sinner you are, you will surely break down and cry for mercy. O sinner friend, you will call on God for mercy; I did, or at least the saints of God did. They prayed about

three months for the Lord to heal me of tuberculosis. One night about sundown the Lord sent His healing power and healed my body of this terrible disease, also saved and sanctified me; I joined the Church of God at Horseshoe, Fla., and was baptized by Brother J. A. Norris. That has been about three years ago.

About thirty days ago the State of South Carolina made a lung examination and the doctor said even the scars were healed up, that there was no sign of tuberculosis. I looked the doctor in the eyes and said, "Thank God, I know the Lord healed me for the doctor could not." Praise His name forever! I was once a sinner for the devil but am now a saint for the Lord.—James Rollison.

## He Has All Power

STEPPEVILLE, Ala.—I praise the Lord for answering prayer and thank every one who helped pray for daddy. He was in a serious condition and the doctor said there was no chance for him, but God heard and answered prayer, and, thank the Lord, he is up again. I sent in a request for prayer for him and promised the Lord I would testify for Him if He would spare daddy's life and heal his body.

I sent in a request for prayer for daddy in 1942 and God heard and answered it. I know He has all power and hears our prayers many times. I praise Him for it all.

Pray for my loved ones and me.—Estus Davis, Rt. 1.

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## SELLING THE BIRTHRIGHT

(Continued from page 3)

notice this, the rights and privileges of the first-born came not upon their own merits, but strictly upon divine appointment, and such is our salvation: "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God." Salvation, like the birthright, is something we receive as a gift, a gift we receive but not one we deserve.

### HE SOLD OUT CHEAPLY

"But why did Esau sell such valuables so cheaply?" you will ask. My friend, he sold out cheaply for the same reason some of you are selling your birthright. His appetite was strong and his reason was weak. He had been hunting and had taken nothing, was very hungry and faint, and when he saw Jacob's pottage, he craved it with an uncontrollable appetite. "Give me of that same red pottage," he asked his brother. "I will sell you a dish for the birthright," he answered. "I hear that you think very little of the birthright, and now you have a chance of selling it away." Esau begins to reason with himself, "I feel as if I will die, and what profit will this birthright be to one that is dead?" So he swore to Jacob, "You can have the birthright, only give me of that same red pottage." This reminds me of that man or woman whose appetite for sinful pleasures is so strong that they value those pleasures more than the benefits of the new birth. They sell their birthright for a few moments of worldly pleasure. Yes, Esau sold out cheaply, like some of you, who had rather indulge your sensual appetite in a few moments of pleasures, smoking cigarettes, etc., than to have the benefits of grace. Some of you are selling your birthright for a little carnal pride that goes along with the latest styles and fashions. Rather than mortify the worldly pleasure of a permanent wave, some of you will sacrifice the power of the Holy Ghost. Rather than mortify your desire for and love of money, some of you will sell tobacco, that dreadful poison. Yes, we are living in an evil day, when the love of many is growing cold. Men and women are selling their birthright very cheaply indeed. But don't forget this, all these worldly pleasures are but for a moment, and then you will give an account before God. When the man of God began to compare the length of this life with the unending eternity, he cried out,

"My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle," Job 7:6.

There is another reason why Esau made the bargain with Jacob, and it is very significant. Esau knew that his bargain with Jacob was an oral agreement, and since there was no written contract by which to prove his trade, he thought that when the time should come for his father to present the blessing, that is, the double portion, he would get the blessing regardless of his trade with Jacob. Now this reminds me of some of you who think you may go on living in sinful pleasures until life is far spent and then in the end of your days think that you will be saved. But, my friends, if you now hear the call of God and feel the urge to turn from sin to salvation, and you say, "I will not serve God yet, I want to enjoy the pleasures of sin while I am young, and after I am old then I will be saved," I'm asking you, Is this your attitude of the great call of mercy? If so, I am afraid you're selling your birthright.

I want you to notice what happened when Isaac thought to give the double portion which belonged to the birthright. He was blind because of his age, and when he called for Esau, the first-born to come near and receive the blessing, Jacob drew near and pretended that he was Esau. He did this designing to cheat Esau out of the blessing. He had already bought his birthright long before this, and now he reaches for the blessing. This was before Jacob's conversion, while he was a supplanter, a deceiver, a cheat. And this reminds me of the devil, that arch deceiver, who is selling some of you a few moments of worldly pleasure for your birthright; and when you come to the end of the way, when the last feeble steps are being taken, the devil will step in to rob you of the blessing of eternal life. Don't think that you can now sell out to Satan and at death receive everlasting life, the double portion. Impossible!

Isaac feels of Jacob's arm which was covered with the skin of an animal. Says he, "It has the feel of Esau's arm, being very hairy, but the voice is as the voice of Jacob." However, thinking him to be Esau, he deeded to him the blessing. Then came Esau in after this to receive the blessing. But I want you to notice he came too late. "Too late!" the most fearful words in all the language of heaven or earth. Too late! Isaac trembled with fear when he learned that he had

made the mistake. The Bible says, "He trembled very exceedingly." Gen. 27:33. Can I get your attention on this warning? "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God." When Esau learned what had happened he cried with an exceeding bitter cry, and asked his father if he couldn't change the bargain? Then God Almighty intervened and said, "No, the bargain shall not be changed." Esau sold his birthright long ago for one mess of pottage. He made the trade with Jacob, the deceiver, and it will stand as it is. Sinner friend, and you who have backslidden on God, I want to tell you something just here, don't think that you can bargain with the devil now to live in sinful pleasures, and then think that God will change the matter when life is far spent. "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth . . . while the sun, or the light, or the moon, or the stars, be not darkened." Eccl. 12:1, 2. There's coming a day in your life, if you persist in sin, that heaven's light will be darkened. Notice the process. First, the sun, the greatest light, goes out. Then comes the twilight, a degree darker than the sun; then the light of the moon, a degree of light less than the twilight. After this, the light of the stars, lesser light than the moon; and, after this, total eclipse. O sinner, you hold the candle of your soul in your own hands.

Esau sold his birthright years ago for one morsel of meat, and now he thinks to change the bargain, but it is too late. There is no place to repent, no way to change the bargain. I'm asking you tonight, you that are outside of Christ, will this be your lot? Will you now choose the pleasures of sin preferable to the saving grace of Jesus Christ? Will you persist in sin until life is far spent? Do you think that you may gratify the lusts of the flesh in carnal pleasures and then be saved on your deathbed? or have you been taught that if you should die in sin the priest may pray you out of hell? I warn you, and remind you, that, "It is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment." Hebrews 9:27. Please do not question the justice of God in eternal punishment; if you are lost it will be of your own choice. By virtue of the divine appointment you have a birthright in the blood of Jesus, and if you choose to sell these grand and eternal benefits it is your own bargain. There is a way for you to miss hell and the damnation thereof, and

how may you escape if you neglect this great salvation?

After life has been spent in sinful pleasures, and you stand before the bar of divine justice, there will be no way to change the mind of the great Judge. Esau made the bargain with the deceiver, and God ratified it when he thought to change his mind. Same will be your position if you live in sin until death ushers you into the presence of the Judge. The "I wills" of God's wrath are just as holy as the "I wills" of His mercy. When you stand before the great Judge you will weep with bitter tears, like Esau, but there will be no place of repentance. So I beg of you, be not so foolish as Esau. Turn from sin. Turn now! Think not to say within yourselves, "I have plenty of time, I will be saved later." You are closer to God now than you will ever be again. If you neglect this chance of salvation, you will have less chance next time. You who are putting off salvation, some of you have been putting it off for a long time. You remind me of the young craigsman who lived in the far North. One day while searching for sea-bird's eggs he let himself down by a large rope over the brow of a great precipice to a ledge far below. While standing on that ledge the rope slipped from his hands and swung far out over the abyss. "O God," he prayed, "the rope is my only means of salvation." Slowly the rope swung back towards him again. "If I miss this chance I will have less chance next time. The rope is closer to me this time than it will ever be again; if I miss this chance I will have less chance next time." With fainting heart and trembling hands, he took hold of the rope to pull himself back to safety. My lost friend, the rope of salvation swings toward you. Far out over the abyss of time the rope of mercy swings near you. If you miss this chance you will have less chance next time. "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?"

### ETERNAL PUNISHMENT FOR THE WICKED

(Continued from page 5)

Heb. 2:1, "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip."

May God help us to teach His Word with a burning love and compassion to the lost millions around us that are slipping into eternity without Christ.

### PRAYER

(Continued from page 9)

poor sinner did. He was so humble he wouldn't even lift his face to God.

*Are all prayers answered?* Many people think that if a request is not answered in the affirmative, it is not answered. All prayers are answered even though some of them are answered in the negative. However, God answers our prayers, it is for our own good. So in closing I would like to sum up some of the things I have said concerning prayer. First, prayer is a communion with God. Next, we should pray whenever we feel it is needed, and not only when we are in trouble. And we should come to God in the humbleness of the poor repentant sinner, knowing that God will answer our prayers.

We pray to God that He will teach us how to pray, that through prayer we may become better Christians and strengthen our faith in God. Hear our prayers, O God. We ask this in Jesus's name. Amen.

### JESUS ONLY

(Continued from page 6)

Jesus, and the place prepared for them, if they could have the world, too; but that is impossible, even if some are professing just that. If they partake of the things of the world, and look and act like sinners, you can rest assured, they don't have Jesus in their hearts.

There are some people in the world who think you can be saved and no one will know anything about it. They think you can just go on as you are, sinning all the time.

Oh, how dreadful just to think how much in darkness they are. The Lord would lead them out of darkness if they would only let Him. In Acts 13:38, Paul said, "Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins." Surely everyone ought to know if we are forgiven of our sins we ought to quit sinning. We will, too, if we mean business with God.

Jesus said if we come after Him we would have to take up our cross and follow Him. There are so many who won't have the cross. They want everything so easy. Jesus didn't have it easy. He went through more than we will ever have to go through. He gave His life for us to live eternally and in order to accept it you will have to give your heart and life to Him.

You are gaining everything by do-

ing this—a peaceful, happy life here, and then life eternal with Him. But He demands your all or nothing.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." Read the twelfth chapter of Romans.

"Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good." Friends, we can't live for God and the devil at the same time. We have to denounce everything that is wrong, if we are to live for Jesus.

"For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance." "Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

On the mount of transfiguration, the three disciples saw Moses and Elias in conversation with Jesus. When the heavenly radiance had flooded into the light of common day, their eyes could discern no man save Jesus only.

Why ask for more? Is not the sight of the Master's face sufficient? Let Moses and Elias go back into the deep shadows; let the dazzling brightness depart and take with it what it will, provided Jesus Himself is in our line of vision, we can go down the mountainside alone and unafraid.

There is but one thing that we need to make sure of, that is that by lifting our eyes we can see Jesus, and keep Him steadily in view. It does not matter who else comes and goes amid the shifting scenes of life's longest day, provided Jesus is with us. Thank God, He has promised to be with us, even unto the end of the world. He promised never to leave us. May we never leave Him.

### Determined To Work for God

PINEOLA, N. C.—We praise the Lord for the faithful few we have here who have been so loyal and true under some past hard circumstances. Last year we did not have a pastor and the enemy tried to destroy our church by blowing it down, but praise the Lord, it is fixed up again and we have a greater determination to work for God than ever before.

We have a wonderful pastor, Brother Pritchard, and his wife. We are looking forward to a great year for God here. Please pray for us.—Frances Johnson.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL



## I BELIEVE GOD

(Continued from page 8)

moved in our own lives, at various times, even though, at the time, we could not believe nor see His hand. Perhaps He is moving mightily in our favor *now*, this very moment. Are we puzzled, frightened, uncertain, alarmed, desperate? Are we "tempest-tossed" on life's sea? Let us turn to Acts 27, 28, and read these great chapters again, carefully, prayerfully, believingly. They have a message for such hours as so many individuals are passing through these wartime days.

"I believe God!" Can we truly say these words, as Paul could? Have we ever thought about them? Let us do so now. *What* do we believe? What has God promised to do for us? Let us look through the Book and note some of the promises (2 Peter 1:4). Someone has estimated that there are some thirty-two thousand promises in the Word of God. Many of them are for us—for you and for me. But they will do us no good if we do not appropriate them by faith. We must "believe God" with regard to them.

Perhaps we do not know much Scripture. We can always learn more. But probably we do know some parts of such familiar portions as Psalm 23 and John 14. Re-read these carefully now. Note the promises which they contain. How many of these promises are for *you*? How many of them do you believe? Can you say, "I believe God!" with regard to these? If so, you can look up others. The Word is replete with precious promises to God's children.

When Paul faced that motley crowd of storm-tossed, weary, fasting, fainting, hopeless people that night, he did not try to "spread good cheer" by some sort of social gospel, or forced-smile methods. He merely proclaimed a mighty fact. He proclaimed his own faith in God, and in His infallible Word. Then he sealed his testimony by himself taking bread, giving thanks publicly for it, and eating. This had the desired effect, as we have seen. The people must have seen and recognized Paul's sincerity and earnestness, for they too ate bread and were of good cheer.

The Word of God is still powerful (Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12) today. It is still sharp as a two-edged sword. Used by a skilled servant of God, it will perform mighty things in the lives of others. Fellow travelers, on the road

to eternity, are sin-sick today. It seems at times as if the ship is about to be dashed to pieces by the violent waves of sin that dash upon it. Christians alone, who know God and are aware of His power, love, and faithfulness in the past, can be calm and hopeful of the outcome. Christians have an opportunity to help these tempest-tossed ones by their own living faith in a living God, and in His Word, and its promises. It is a time fraught with opportunity to help. There are many ways to help. We need not be preachers in pulpits, teachers before large Bible classes. We need not be church officials. We need not be socially prominent nor financially successful, in order to help. But we do need to "believe God."

We need not go about saying these words, "I believe God!" There is no harm in doing that, either, if we mean it and can impress others with the fact. But our lives and living, our real faith, must match our profession, our declaration. This believing must become an inward, spiritual reality first. We must really *believe* Him—we must, first, read and know His promises—then believe them fully, truly. Without much reading of the Book we cannot know them well. Here, the devil gets in his deadly work—he finds ways and means to make us "too busy" (even doing good things) to read enough of the Book. He finds many ways to sidetrack us when we form good resolutions. We must be ever on the alert for his underhanded tactics, that we may see and recognize them. A minister, speaking about this matter of believing, once put his message into these rather striking words: "Go off alone—into your backyard, closet, or some open field or bit of woodland—and *cry aloud*, 'I believe God' No, I am not using a mere figure of speech, I mean this literally. Let every demon in the hosts of darkness know that you believe that it **SHALL BE** even as it was told unto you in God's Word—in spite of socialism, bolshevism, depressions, cranks, and Satan himself! Register before men and angels, as sons of the living God, our loving Father, this fact—**I BELIEVE GOD.**"

Satan ever seeks to depress Christians. Look about you today. How many apparently sincere, earnest, hard-working Christians seem depressed, worried, harried. Modern conditions all tend to bring this about. But to some the depression seems deeper than to others. Everyone, these days, has troubles aplenty—great,

soul-testing troubles indeed. Blessed, then, is the Christian who so knows the Word, and so believes its promises by faith, that he or she can cheer other "shipmates" in this time of storm, and cause them to "take bread and be of good cheer!" Perhaps this is your job, the work God wishes you to do. You may not be able to say the words audibly before me, "I believe God." But you can "say" them in other ways—perhaps by your faith-directed living, your good cheer in the face of doubts and fears and dangers; by your interest in others' troubles rather than telling of your own; by your faithfulness in your church and other Christian duties at a time when certain laxness might be "excusable" in the sight of men. There are many ways of saying, "I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me."

And if we "believe God" when He says, so often in the Word, that His Son Jesus is coming back again (John 14), we shall find, even in these dark days, a ray of divine light and hope that will help us say the words "I believe God!" often and effectively. His coming again is perhaps the brightest hope which the Christian can see ahead in this time of darkness and uncertainty—but that is a bright star indeed by which to be guided in our conversation and conduct.

There is no success without honor; no happiness without a clear conscience; no use in living at all, if only for one's self.—Robert Waters.

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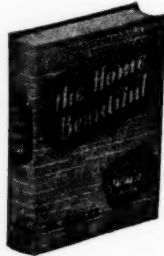
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